5th February 1936]

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER :—" Sir, the percentage of income on the capital outlay is expected to be 12·7; may I ask the Hon. Member whether the percentage cannot be reduced so that the scheme may be made more popular? "

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU :—" I believe, Sir, that that has been the standard."

Prisons and Prisoners

Health condition of Narayana Nambiyar, prisoner, Madras Conspiracy Case.

* 723 *Q.*—Mrs. A. RUKMANI LAKSHMIPATHI : Will the Hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether one Narayana Nambiyar, prisoner, Madras Conspiracy case, has been brought down to Madras for medical examination;

(*b*) whether the medical examination is over and whether any report has been submitted to Government; and

(*c*) what his present state of health is?

A.—As the prisoner, Narayana Nambiyar, was suffering from dyspeptic symptoms and abdominal pain he was brought down to Madras for medical examination in October last. The radiological report revealed the existence of a duodenal ulcer. He was admitted into the General Hospital, Madras, on 1st November 1935 for operative treatment and a report was submitted to Government. As the prisoner refused to undergo the operation he was discharged from the hospital and re-admitted into the jail. He was put on alkaline treatment and liquid diet. The latest medical report shows that he has no gastric symptoms now and that he is having good sleep at nights. His weight before he was sent to the General Hospital was 109 lb. His weight on 11th January 1936 was 111 lb.

Mrs. A. RUKMANI LAKSHMIPATHI :—" Sir, may I ask whether it does not look peculiar that the majority of political offenders suffer from stomach troubles when they are in jails; may I know whether it is due to the bad food supplied in these jails or whether political offenders are prone to such diseases? "

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU :—" It is not for me to say whether it is due to their constitution or to the food supplied in jails, but I can assure the hon. Member that the food supplied to these prisoners is just the same as that supplied to the other prisoners of their class and is believed to be the right sort of food."

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT :—" May I ask whether the Hon. Member will call for a report as to why among political prisoners there is such a large number of people suffering from stomach complaints? "

[5th February 1936

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu :—" In the first place, Sir, it is not correct to say that there is a large number of them."

Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt :—" May I ask whether he will call for a report as to the number of political prisoners who have suffered from stomach troubles during the last four or five years? "

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu :—" No, Sir, for if there has been anything serious in the matter, it would certainly have been reported to the Government already."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan :—" May I ask for what was the prisoner asked to undergo an operation in the hospital, Sir? "

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu :—" It is stated in the answer itself, Sir,—duodenal ulcer."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan :—" Did the Medical Officers say that operation was absolutely necessary in his case? "

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu :—" I do not know whether they said that it was absolutely necessary or not. He was advised to undergo an operation but he refused to undergo the operation."

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar :—" May I ask whether in this particular case the ailment complained of is due to the fact that the prisoner is put in a lower class and subjected to a lower standard of food than that to which he is accustomed in normal life? "

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu :—" I do not think so, Sir."

Control of Vehicles

Progress in the matter of the amendments of Motor Vehicle Rules.

* 724 Q.—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder : Will the Hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the opinion invited from the Automobile Association of Southern India, the Madras Motor Vehicles Importers and Allied Merchants' Association, and the Indian Roads and Transport Development Association on the draft of the new motor rules has been received;

(*b*) if so, whether a copy of the opinion of each of those bodies will be placed on the table;

(*c*) whether persons attached to those bodies were already serving on the committee appointed to get up these draft rules.

(*d*) whether the district boards have been consulted in the matter of these draft rules;

(*e*) if so, whether and when the opinions of those bodies have been received; and

(*f*) whether the Government have considered the draft rules, and when they are likely to be published for public criticism and made final and brought into force?